

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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COMIPAC

CHMAAGCHINA

COMUSTDC

CDR USACC TAIWAN

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 HONG KONG 5102

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CH

SUBJ: WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA NO. 18

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SUMMARY: CHINA'S LEADERS ARE MUDDLING THROUGH WITHOUT RESOLVING THE MAJOR OUTSTANDING ISSUES, WHILE THE CAMPAIGN CONTINUES TO TAKE SWINGS AT BOTH THE DEPOSED TENG HSIAO-PING AND "OTHER CAPITALIST ROADERS." MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS BROUGHT NEW FESTIVITIES WITH THE RETURN OF FIREWORKS DISPLAYS, BUT A HEAVY PRESENCE OF SECURITY FORCES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY DEMONSTRATED THE REGIME'S CONCERN OVER THE TIEN AN MEN INCIDENT A MONTH AGO AND THE RECENT BOMB BLAST AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY. THERE HAS BEEN A NOTICEABLE UPSURGE IN FOREIGN VISITORS, WITH BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY CROSLAND AND NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER MULDOON BOTH IN PEKING DURING THE WEEK AND TWO MORE VISITORS, KING BIRENDRA OF NEPAL AND PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO, SLATED TO VISIT CHINA IN THE NEXT MONTH. END SUMMARY

1. MAY DAY AND THE CAMPAIGN

CENTER MEDIA CAMPAIGNING CONTINUED TO PREACH AGAINST "OTHER CAPITALIST ROADERS" (WR 17), WITH A KWANGMING DAILY ARTICLE ATTACKING TENG AND "SEVERAL CAPITALIST ROADERS" IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY THE MOST POINTED ACCUSATION AGAINST THEM (NCNA MAY 3). LEADERSHIP APPEARANCES FOR MAY DAY HIGHLIGHTED THE

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POLICY DIVISIONS WITHIN PEKING'S POLITBURO. GIVING A COSMETIC APPEARANCE OF TOP LEADER UNITY, ALL BUT MAO AND AILING LIU PO-CHENG OF THE CAPITAL'S GERONTOCRACY TURNED OUT TO VIEW A SPECIALLY ORGANIZED PROGRAM OF FESTIVITIES. NEVERTHELESS, THIS LISTING SHARPLY CONTRASTED WITH THE KEY ABSENCES OF LI HSIEN-NIEN, CHU TEH, AND YEH CHIEN-YING FROM THE POLITICALLY-CHARGED APRIL 26 MEETING FOR TIEN AN MEN HEROES (HK 4860). SIMILARLY PROTOCOL TREATMENT FOR NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER MULDOON DROPPED

EVEN LOWER THAN THE SECOND-RATE PRC PROTOCOL TURNOUT FOR THE EGYPTIAN VICE PRESIDENT EARLIER AND PREMIER HUA KUO-FENG SHOWED UP WITHOUT THE USUAL BACKUP OF A VICE PREMIER/POLITBURO MEMBER AND NPC VICE CHAIRMAN (SEE PARA 9). LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2. IN ADDITION, THE USUAL NAME LIST DESCRIBING MAY DAY PARK TURNOUTS WAS TRUNCATED, LISTING ONLY THOSE IN THE POLITBURO, NPC STANDING COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN AND STATE COUNCIL VICE PREMIERS. HERE THE REGIME SEEMED TO BE PLAYING DOWN POTENTIAL PROBLEM AREAS BY AVOIDING SPECULATION OVER MISSING PERSONALITIES WHO MIGHT BE HIGHLIGHTED BY ISSUING A NAME LIST. PHOTOS OF LEADERS' PARK TURNOUTS ALSO DEMONSTRATE AN UNUSUAL BALANCING OF AGE GROUPS AND POLITICAL COMMITMENTS WITH THE ELDERLY NPC LEADERSHIP MAKING UP THE VISUAL COUNTERWEIGHT TO CAMPAIGN PROMOTERS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

3. THE TIEN AN MEN INCIDENT CONTINUES TO CAST A PALL OVER THE CHINESE POLITICAL SCENE. PEKING FESTIVITIES WERE GIVEN HEAVY SECURITY AND THE ATMOSPHERE, DESPITE THE UNUSUAL FIREWORKS DISPLAYS, WAS LESS THAN GAY (PEKING 792). THE BOMB EXPLOSION AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY ADDED TO THE SOMBER NOTE AND PROBABLY INCREASED THE SECURITY LEVELS (SEE PARA 8). THE INCIDENT AT TIEN AN MEN ALSO SERVED AS THE FOCAL POINT FOR ATTACKS AGAINST TENG AND OTHERS WHO TOOK HIS NAME IN VAIN ON APRIL 5 AND, ACCORDING TO TANJUG AND AFP REPORTS (MAY 2) SOME OF THOSE INDIVIDUALS HAVE ALREADY UNDERGONE CRITICISM AT PEKING'S UNIVERSITIES. THE UNIVERSITIES ARE STILL THE KEY RALLYING GROUND OF THE CAMPAIGN'S PROMOTERS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

4. PROVINCIAL FALLOUT FROM TIEN AN MEN

THE SHOCK WAVES FROM THE APRIL 5 TIEN AN MEN DISTURBANCES (WR 14) ARE ALSO STILL BEING FELT IN THE PROVINCES. FOR THE PAST TWO

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WEEKS, PROVINCIAL RADIO BROADCASTS HAVE HAMMERED AWAY AT THE NEED TO COMBAT COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY "POLITICAL RUMORS." THE RUMORS ARE NEVER SPELLED OUT, BUT THEY PROBABLY INCLUDE CRITICISM OF THE REGIME FOR ITS FAILURE TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF CHOU EN-LAI AND FOR ATTACKS ON TENG HSIAO-PING WHICH IN EFFECT ARE TRANS-PARENT CRITICISMS OF CHOU'S PROGRAMS. THESE RUMORS, JUDGING FROM THE BROADCASTS, HAVE SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCES AND IT IS CLEAR THEY ARE MAKING THE REGIME VERY NERVOUS. INSTRUCTIONS TO "TRACK DOWN" THE RUMORS, AS WELL AS THE COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES BEHIND THEM, WERE MADE PROMINENT IN A KEY MAY RED FLAG ARTICLE (CARRIED IN THE APRIL 25 PEOPLE'S DAILY) BY CHIH HENG AND HAVE BEEN REPEATED IN HALF A DOZEN PROVINCES. THE TRACKING DOWN PROCESS PRESUMABLY COULD EXPAND THE TARGETS OF THE CAMPAIGN BEYOND TENG HSIAO-PING. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

5. HONAN, ONE OF THE BIGGEST BOOSTERS OF THE CAMPAIGN SINCE ITS INCEPTION, IS CURRENTLY FACED WITH ONE OF THE GREATER PROBLEMS OF SOCIAL DISORDER. A PROVINCIAL BROADCAST APRIL 29 REVEALED THAT "SABOTAGE ACTIVITIES" PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN LIMITED TO ITS CAPITAL, CHANGCHOW, AT THE TIME OF THE TIEN AN MEN DISTURBANCES TOOK PLACE IN OTHER MUNICIPALITIES THROUGHOUT HONAN AS WELL. FURTHERMORE, PRESENT AT A MAY DAY RALLY WAS A WORK GROUP FROM THE STATE (#)

VOLVE RAILWAY WORKERS ON A KEY TRANSPORT LINE AS WELL AS DEMONSTRATORS IN A TOWN SQUARE (HK 5036). INSTEAD OF TEMPERING THEIR FIERY RHETORIC HOWEVER, THE HONAN MEDIA HAS STEPPED UP ATTACKS AGAINST THE SOURCES OF THE TROUBLE WHO ARE ALLEGED TO LURK WITHIN THE PARTY. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NOTE BY OC/T: HONG KONG 5102/1 (#) OMISSION CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN NY
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
FBIS OKINAWA
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
COMIPAC
CHMAAGCHINA
COMUSTDC
CDR USACC TAIWAN
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
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6. LEADERSHIP APPEARANCES

THE WEEK'S NOTABLE LEADERSHIP APPEARANCES INCLUDED CHAIRMAN MAO-TSE-TUNG'S BRIEF MEETING WITH NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER ROBERT MULDOON, WHO WAS HOSTED BY PREMIER HUA IN THE CAPITAL AND ACCOMPANIED BY AGRICULTURE MINISTER SHA FENG TO SHANGHAI, SOOCHOW AND CANTON. MULDOON'S VISIT TO TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY IN THE COMPANY OF EDUCATION MINISTRY "LEADING MEMBER" CHOU HUNG-PAO HIGHLIGHTED THE CONTINUED ABSENCE OF EDUCATION MINISTER CHOU JUNG-HSIN. AT THE UNIVERSITY, TSINGHUA'S RADICAL LEADERS REFERRED TO CHOU AS "FORMER MINISTER OF EDUCATION" (HK 4986) AND AFP PLAYED A MAY 3 STORY INDICATING THAT CHOU HAD DIED OF A BRAIN HEMORRHAGE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

7. ALSO IN THE SPOTLIGHT THIS WEEK WERE VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN, HOW CONFERRED WITH DELEGATIONS FROM THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER YEH FEI, A CULTURAL REVOLUTION REHABILITEE, WHO ATTENDED ANETHERLANDS NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION, POLITBURO MEMBER YAO WEN-YUAN, WHO GREETED A SUDANESE PRESS DELEGATION AND ALTERNATE POLITBURO MEMBER NI CHIH-FU, WHO LED A PRE-MAY 4 YOUTH DAY RALLY IN PEKING. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

8. THE SOVIETS

ON APRIL 20, A SPOKESMAN OF THE MFA INFORMATION DEPARTMENT TERMED THE APRIL 29 BLAST AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN PEKING, WHICH KILLED AT LEAST TWO, AND POSSIBLY THREE, CHINESE "AN ACT OF SABOTAGE BY A COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY" AND NOTED THAT THE "INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING." PRC MEDIA, BOTH DOMESTIC, AND IN HONG KONG, HOWEVER, HAVE NOT COMMENTED ON THE BLAST (APPARENTLY CAUSED BY A BOMB) WHICH DEMOLISHED THE GUARD HOUSE AT THE EMBASSY. THE SOVIETS HAVE ISSUED AN OFFICIAL PROTEST, WHILE MOSCOW'S DIPLOMATS IN PEKING HAVE ATTRIBUTED THE BLAST TO THE WORK OF ONE OR MORE DERANGED PEOPLE BUT PLACES ULTIMATE BLAME ON THE PRC'S FOSTERING OF SOVIET HATRED IN ITS PROPAGANDA. (SEE ALSO PEKING 789, 780, 781 AND 776)
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9. NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND PRIME MINISTER ROBERT MULDOON, THE FIRST WESTERN CHIEF OF STATE TO VISIT CHINA SINCE THE APPOINTMENT OF HUA KUO-FENG AS PREMIER, WAS WELCOMED IN PEKING APRIL 28 WITH THE USUAL FANFARE. MET AND HOSTED BY HUA AND FONMIN CHIAO KUAN-HUA, MULDOON HAD TWO SESSIONS WITH HUA, A BRIEF MEETING WITH CHAIRMAN MAO (LEADING TO SPECULATION THAT THE CHAIRMAN IS ILL), A THEATER SOIREE, A VISIT TO TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY TO LEARN OF THE EDUCATION CAMPAIGN, AND THE CUSTOMARY TWO BANQUETS. THE ONLY AGREEMENT REACHED WAS AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS GRATING MFN IN SHIPPING AND THERE WAS NO JOINT COMMUNIQUE. INDEED, AT THE RETURN BANQUET, BOTH MULDOON AND HUA STATED FRANKLY THAT THE TWO SIDES HAD NOT AGREED ON ALL ISSUES. AT THE WELCOMING BANQUET, HUA RAISED THE FAMILIAR PRC THEME OF THE DANGER OF WAR, INDICATING THAT THIS IS SOMETHING "INDEPENDENT OF MAN'S WILL", A FORMULATION WHICH HAD NOT BEEN USED BY THE PRC LEADERSHIP THIS YEAR. AGAIN, THE SOVIETS WERE DENOUNCED AS THE "MOST DANGEROUS SOURCE OF WAR." HUA ALSO DECLARED THAT CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY, "FORMULATED BY CHAIRMAN MAO PERSONALLY," WOULD NOT CHANGE. MULDOON, IN TURN, PRAISED ASEAN AND CLAIMED THAT THE ANZUS ALLIANCE IS THE "CORNERSTONE OF OUR SECURITY."
NCNA, APRIL 28 - MAY 4. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

10. BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY VISITS CHINA

BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY ANTHONY CROSLAND ARRIVED IN PEKING MAY 4, WAS MET BY FONMIN CHIAO KUAN-HUA WITH WHOM HE HAD AFTERNOON TALKS BEFORE CHIAO HOSTED THE CUSTOMARY WELCOMING BANQUET. AT THE BANQUET, CHIAO MADE THE USUAL ANTI-SOVIET PITCH AND POINTED TO A GROWING DANGER OF WAR. HE PAINTED A PICTURE OF THE SOVIETS AS BEING TRUCULENT AND BRUTAL BUT AN "ESSENTIALLY

WEAK PAPER TIGER" WHILE CITING THE NEED FOR GREATER WESTERN EUROPEAN UNITY AND PREPAREDNESS. CHIAO REAFFIRMED THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S CONSISTENT SUPPORT FOR WESTERN EUROPEAN UNITY AGAINST HEGEMONISM. IN REPLY, CORSLAND REASSURED HIS HOSTS OF THE U.S.'S DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN THE SECURITY AND INTEGRITY OF WESTERN EUROPE AND THAT BRITAIN HARBORS "NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE DANGERS WHICH THREATEN US." NCNA'S EXCERPTED PR- TIONS OF THE BANQUET SPEECHES, HOWEVER, DID NOT CARRY CROSLAND'S CONFIDENTIAL
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APPARENT EXPLICIT LINKAGE OF BRITAIN'S SECURITY WITH NATO.

11. MEANWHILE, THE HONG KONG PRESS HAVE SPECULATED THAT THE SUBJECT OF HONG KONG WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN CROSLAND'S TALKS SINCE BOTH SIDES SEEM SATISFIED WITH THE CURRENT SITUATION. SEVERAL PAPERS HAVE ALSO ASSERTED THAT THE NEW TERRITORIES LEASE IS NOT IMPORTANT AFTER WESTERN PRESS REPORTS CITED CONGRESSMAN LESTER FOLFF AS CLAIMING AN UNNAMED CHINESE OFFICIAL STATED THAT, WHEN THE LEASE IS UP, HONG KONG WILL AGAIN BE- COME PART OF CHINA. NCNA MAY 4 AND REUTERS MAY 4. CONFIDENTIAL

12. THE MIDDLE EAST

THE VISIT OF THE CHIEF OF THE PLO POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, FAROUK AL KADOUMY, HAS AFFORDED PEKING OPPORTUNITIES TO REITERATE AT A HIGH LEVEL CHINA'S SUPPORT FOR THE PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE. BOTH VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN AND FONGMIN CHIAO KUAN-HUA REPORTEDLY REAFFIRMED CHINA'S SUPPORT FOR THE PALESTINIAN AND ARAB PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE AGAINST ZIONISM, IMPERIALISM AND HEGEMONISM. AT AN APRIL 28 BANQUET HONORING THE DELEGATION, CHIAO ALSO HAD THE USUAL HARSH WORDS FOR THE SOVIET ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, CONTENDING THAT THE UNNAMED SOVIETS USE "SHAM" SUPPORT AND AID TO COVER UP A PUSH FOR "REAL" CONTROL AND EXPANSION. HOWEVER, IN HIS RESPONSE, THE PLO LEADER AVOIDED CRITICISM OF THE SOVIETS AND, INSTEAD, CITED THE PLO'S STRUGGLE AGAINST THE "INTRIGUES OF COLONIALISM, ZIONISM AND U.S. IMPERIALISM." UNCLASSIFIED

13. MEANWHILE, NCNA HAS CONTINUED TO CARRY EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT'S CRITICAL REMARKS ON THE SOVIETS AND HAS NOTED EGYPTIAN VICE-PRESIDENT HOSNY MOBARAK'S FAVORABLE COMMENTS ON HIS VISIT TO CHINA AND SINO-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS AT A MAY 2 BANQUET HOSTED BY THE PRC AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT. NCNA APRIL 28 - MAY 2, AFP APRIL 29-30. UNCLASSIFIED

14. SOUTH ASIA

ADDED TO THE GROWING LIST OF UPCOMING VISITORS TO CHINA DURING THE WEEK WERE KING BIRENDRA OF NEPAL AND PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO OF PAKISTAN. THE NEPALESE KING WILL MAKE AN UNPRECEDENTED JUNE 2-9 VISIT TO SZECHUAN AND TIBET APPARENTLY WITHOUT

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VISITING PEKING. HE IS BEING INVITED OFFICIALLY BY NPC CHAIRMAN CHU TEH AND PREMIER HUA KUO-FENG. BHUTTO'S TRIP, SLATED FOR LATE MAY, HAS NOT YET BEEN ANNOUNCED BY THE PRC. BOTH VISITS ARE OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST SINCE THEY WERE PRESUMABLY ARRANGED AFTER THE INDIAN DECISION WAS REACHED TO REESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH PEKING ON THE AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL. NCNA, APRIL 30 AND ISLAMABAD 4275.
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15. ALBANIA

PRC MEDIA ATTENTION TO ALBANIA HAS INCREASED DURING THE PAST WEEK, APPARENTLY TO SCOTCH RUMORS ABOUT A COOLING OF SINO-ALBANIA RELATIONS. ON APRIL 30 NCNA REPORTED PRESIDENT HOXHA'S MEETING WITH ALBANIAN AND CHINESE WORKERS CONSTRUCTING A METALLURGICAL COMBINE IN ELBASAN AND HOXHA'S PRAISE FOR THE REVOLUTIONARY FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO PEOPLES. IT CITED HOXHA'S ASSERTION THAT ALBANIA'S ENEMIES HAVE BEEN CARRYING ON A SLANDEROUS CAMPAIGN IN THE CAPITALIST-REVISIONIST WORLD TO REATE AN IMPRESSION THAT SINO-ALBANIAN RELATIONS HAVE BECOME "COLD" AND HIS REFERENCES TO THE HOSTILE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOVIET REVISIONISTS. BUT NCNA DID NOT CARRY HOXHA'S REPORTED CONTENTION THAT THE GROUP OF ENEMIES AND TRAITORS TRYING TO UNDERMINE ALBANIA'S FRIENDSHIP WITH CHINA HAD BEEN SMASHED. IN OTHER REPORTING, NCNA NOTED THE ATTENDANCE OF THE PRC VICE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AT ALBANIAN MAY DAY PARADE AND THAT THE PARTICIPANTS CARRIED PORTRAITS OF COMRADE MAO ALONG WITH THOSE OF MARX, ENGLES, LENIN, STALIN, AND HOXHA. ON APRIL, 29, THE TWO COUNTRIES ALSO SIGNED A PROTOCOL ON THE 11TH SESSION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SINO-ALBANIAN JOINT STOCK SHIPPING COMPANY. NCNA APRIL 29-30 AND REUTERS APRIL 30. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.
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